

## How Marjorie Thompson Was Found After Five Weeks



Marjorie Thompson, an amateur dancer, has visions of becoming a stage celebrity in the dancing world. In her dreams, she saw herself tipping lightly before the footlights, while the plaudits of admiring throngs rang in her ears.



She leaves home, determined to satisfy the ambitions of her young life—she is fifteen. She packs her grip, dashes off a note to her mother, and disappears from the Grant place home. This was on August 1.



Mrs. Marie Thompson, the mother, frantically appeals to the police to help her locate her daughter. She calls on the chief of detectives, and later asks the officials of all the big Eastern cities for assistance.



The moving picture theaters of the country then are appealed to. Slides are made of the girl, and these are flashed on the screens of hundreds of "movie" houses, and thousands of persons saw the photograph and looked for her.



A Philadelphia detective sees a girl wandering aimlessly down Walnut street. He peers under her hat and sees the likeness of the girl whose picture he had seen on the screen at a moving picture show he recently had visited, and Marjorie Thompson is found.

## THOMPSON GIRL BALKS AT COMING BACK TO CAPITAL

(Continued from Page One.)

her mother that the public keep a lookout for her.

Marjorie watched the picture without emotion; got up, yawned a little, and strolled out. Detective Vecke had been sitting next to her in the theater. He noted the striking likeness, but was not sure, so he followed her. She strolled leisurely up Walnut street, with the detective a few feet behind her. After peering underneath her hat again, he became convinced that it was right. He walked up and touched the girl on the arm.

"Hello, yourself,"

"Hello, Marjorie," he said.

The girl looked up suddenly and replied, "Hello, yourself."

"Where are you going?" asked the Central Office man.

"Oh, I'm just taking a little stroll in the electric light," the girl replied.

"Well," said Vecke, "suppose we stroll to police headquarters."

Then Marjorie became frightened, and tried to run, but the detective had placed his hand on her arm above her elbow, and grasped it tightly. In this way he took her to the station, the girl protesting at every step.

She admitted that she was Marjorie Thompson, that her mother was looking for her, and that she knew it. She said she didn't care, however.

"I'm big enough to take care of myself and to tend to my own business, and I want to do it," she cried.

Taken To Headquarters.

Marjorie was taken from police headquarters in the city hall to the house of detention, half a mile away in the residential section of Philadelphia.

Word of her finding had been telephoned to her mother in the meantime, and the mother hurried to see her daughter.

"Oh, darling," said her mother. "I'm so glad; I'm so glad."

The mother threw her arms about the girl's neck, hugged her closely, and cried.

There was very little response. The girl seemed reasonably glad to see her mother again, but on the whole she appeared to be rather bored.

"I don't see why you have been making so much fuss about me," the girl said. "I'm all right; you ought to have known that I would be all right."

"Never mind," said the mother, "we'll go right home."

"Not me," said Marjorie. "I'm not going home. I have a friend who has promised me a job to go on the stage or in the movies."

Wants "Movie" Job.

"I will get this job in a few days now, and I'm going to stay right here until something turns up. There is a big 'movie' company here, and they may send for me any minute."

"Until long after midnight Mrs. Thompson pleaded with her daughter to give up her idea, and go home, but Marjorie was adamant."

Early this morning the mother, haggard from a night of worry and weeping, returned to the House of Detention and again began begging the girl to "be a good girl and come home."

But Marjorie, as stubborn as ever, stamped her foot and declared she would not return.

To a representative of The Washington Times the girl sketched briefly the story of her five weeks of disappearance.

"I had been wanting to go on the stage for a long time," she said. "It was so slow at home. Besides, I think I have talent. My friends all say I have. But mother wouldn't hear of it. I tried to reason with her, but she just wouldn't listen. So I decided to go anyhow."

Has New York Friends.

"I have some friends in New York who have influence. I wrote to one of them, and he said he could get me a job. So I went."

"I went straight to New York from Washington, and stayed there a couple of weeks, but they kept putting me off. You see, everything is slow in the show business just now. So I came over to Philadelphia, where it is cheaper to live. I got a room with some friends in West Philadelphia, near a big 'movie' studio. I have been here ever since."

"Just to prove that I can get along, I already had a little work. Of course, I was just an extra, but I got \$5 a day, and I have managed to make enough to pay my expenses."

"Besides, everybody must start as an extra. Pretty soon I expect to get a regular part. The season is just opening, and things are picking up. Besides, my friend is going to help me, as he promised."

Doesn't Want To Return.

"I don't see why mamma wants to make me go home. I don't want to go back there. I don't like it. Be-

## Runaway Capital Girl Who Is Found Through Movies



MARJORIE THOMPSON.

After an absence of several weeks following her disappearance from her home on Grant place, this city, Marjorie Thompson was recognized on a Philadelphia street by a detective who but a few minutes before had seen on a moving picture screen a picture of the girl which the mother had caused to be shown in picture theaters in many cities. The girl ran away with the intention of becoming a professional dancer.

sides, Washington is too slow. I want a career. Every girl has a right to a career. Anyhow, I'm not going. That's all there is to it. I'll stay here and die first."

Marjorie told of almost endless visits to the various theatrical agencies and "movie" studios in and about New York and in Jersey. She got no encouragement from any of them, but she was supremely confident that if she could stick to it long enough, she would win.

The rebuffs she received had not the slightest effect, apparently, on her enthusiasm. She seemed to regard it all as a lark.

"The whole business is perfectly fascinating to me," she said. "I just love it. If mamma will just let me alone, I will make her and my friends proud of me. Any girl can get along if she has any looks at all, a little ability, and tries hard enough."

"I didn't mind being turned down; I just went back day after day."

Girl Looks Prosperous.

Marjorie looked prosperous. She had bought herself some new clothes with her "movie" earnings, and when she was arrested, she had \$30 in a little purse.

Her mother denied that there is any man in the case.

"Marjorie has been with friends ever since she left," said Mrs. Thompson. "There wasn't a man mixed up in it anywhere. I have been writing all around the country ever since she left, and yesterday I got a hint that she was here in Philadelphia. I came here immediately, arriving about noon Friday. Marjorie was not at home, but I had a pretty good idea where to look for her. I think I would have found her myself at the 'movie' studio if the detective hadn't found her first."

"Marjorie is just a little stubborn now, but I am sure she will be reasonable and listen to her mother and go home, and be a good girl, and forget all of this foolishness about the stage."

"She is just a child, just a baby, my baby."

VANDERWERKEN SERVICES.

H. J. Councillor will occupy the pulpit again tomorrow morning at Vanderwerken, Va. On September 16 the pastor will again take up his duties in the pulpit.

## CALLS RECOVERY OF MISSING GIRL A FILM TRIUMPH

The finding of Marjorie Thompson through motion pictures is a striking lesson of the value of the movies that probably will be well remembered by all patrons of the film in Washington, who have watched the nation-wide search for the pretty little fifteen-year-old girl.

This was the statement made today to The Times by Harry M. Crandall, president of the local branch of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League of America.

"Thousands of people saw the picture of the missing girl thrown on the screens in Washington every day," said Mr. Crandall. "It is supposed that 17,000,000 people in America see the movies every day, and I believe that a majority of these people are impressed and remember what they see."

"Cases such as that of the little Thompson girl should be put before the public through the motion picture theaters to believe the movies to be the greatest publicity medium for a nation-wide search of such a character."

"Theaters should be willing at any time to aid in cases like this."

"I consider the finding of Miss Thompson a feather in the cap of the movies."

BROTHER-IN-LAW TELLS HOW HE HIT UPON MOVIE PLAN

Leo Shugrue, nineteen-year-old brother-in-law of Marjorie Thompson, the boy who was primarily responsible for the discovery of the missing girl, today told the story of his motion picture advertising campaign which ended successfully in Philadelphia last night when a detective found Marjorie walking the street after he had seen her picture flashed on the screen in a motion picture theater.

"I thought the police were too lax in the hunt for Marjorie," said Shugrue today, "and knew that I could do better myself."

"For the first several weeks I racked my brain to figure some possible way to locate the girl."

"Ten days ago I hit upon the plan of advertising through the moving pictures. I knew that if her picture were shown upon the screen, she would sooner or later be recognized."

Movie Firm Approves.

"I took up my idea with the Pathe Company here and they thought well of it."

"The only picture that I had of Marjorie was a small one, so I had it enlarged and turned it over to the Pathe company."

"The Pathe company began to run the picture with a statement that the girl was missing from her home."

"I was confident all the time that if Marjorie was to be found, it would be through this kind of advertising. I was not surprised to hear today that she was found, and am glad for her mother's sake."

Covered Country.

Young Shugrue said that his campaign through the Pathe Company covered practically the entire United States.

Shugrue had a camp at Chesapeake Beach and was on his vacation when Marjorie disappeared. He came to Washington two days later and offered his services to Mrs. Thompson to help find Marjorie.

Shugrue lives at 28 R street northeast, and is employed by the Evening Star Company in the classified advertising department.

TALCOTT QUILTS BOARD FOR ENGINEER FIRM

E. M. Talcott, member of the District Board of assistant assessors assigned to the board of personal tax appraisers, has resigned to become associated with Fred S. Hardisty, consulting engineer.

Mr. Talcott entered the service of the District as rodman in the office of the surveyor September 1, 1917. On July 16, 1916, he was promoted to assistant surveyor and on July 1, 1915, was made engineer in charge of street extensions.

He was appointed to the board of assistant assessors April 1, 1916. The position pays \$3,000 a year. Mr. Talcott's successor, Commissioner Brownlow said today, has not been selected.

## Scenario of Adventures of Girl Who Sought Fame In Films

Marjorie Thompson, the most sought for girl Washington has known, was located through motion pictures in thorough "movie" style.

Photographs of the missing girl were made, and from these slides were turned out. These were sent to moving picture show managers throughout the East. A Philadelphia house displayed them repeatedly, and yesterday it had its results.

The chronology of the "Missing Marjorie Thompson" case is:

August 1—Girl writes note she would seek to make own way in world; deposited message to mother in glass bowl at home, and vanished.

August 2—Mother returns from work, finds Marjorie has taken \$15. After reading note mother appeals to the police.

August 3—Mother communicates with girl's aunt, Miss Eugenia Harper, in New York, thinking Marjorie has gone there. Publicity campaign started in Washington papers.

August 4—Circulars containing photograph and description of Marjorie printed and mailed to police in many cities in North and East by Washington police.

August 5—Aunt in New York city causes general alarm to be sounded by police there for location of girl.

August 6—Mrs. Thompson determines to send additional letters to various police departments and personally writes the heads of the public safety divisions of many cities.

August 7—Mother verging on nervous prostration, as no word is received tending to throw light on girl's disappearance.

August 8—Mrs. Thompson leaves sick bed to go to Baltimore, thinking daughter is there. Takes with her circulars mailed by police. Circulars and description given by mother to motion picture agencies, theaters, department stores, and other places in Baltimore.

August 9—Mrs. Thompson returns from Baltimore. Recd. postal card signed "A Stranger," saying the writer saw Marjorie at a point on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad August 1, and later with a man who appeared to be a student officer.

August 10—Mrs. Thompson confers with Central office Detective Armstrong in regard to postal card. Mrs. Thompson resolves to make second trip to Baltimore.

August 11—Mrs. Thompson returns to Washington after second Baltimore search proves of no avail.

August 12—Miss Eugenia Harper, of New York, aunt of the missing girl, arrives in Washington, and with brother, Frederick Harper, who lives here, conducts a search of nearby roadhouses and cabarets.

August 13—Mrs. Thompson cheered when a woman, whose identity is concealed, comes to Washington and says she spent one night the week before

with Marjorie in a rooming house in New York.

August 14—Mrs. Thompson is informed that Marjorie has been seen in Philadelphia.

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## LAFAYETTE FLIER KILLED IN ATTACK ON 5 FOE PLANES

PARIS, Sept. 8.—Corporal Everett Buckley, of the Lafayette Escadrille, a resident of Chicago, was killed Thursday morning in an attack with two fellow American flyers against five German planes, according to word received today.

Buckley fell with his machine, which had been ignited by an incendiary bullet.

The young Chicagoan, with two other Lafayette fliers, was attacked suddenly at a great height by five German aviators. A lively fight ensued, the eight great battle planes circling over miles, and the Americans fighting gallantly, despite the odds.

Buckley was one of the most popular members of the American flying squadron.

August 27—Major Pullman advises Washington mothers to maintain a "protection bureau" in local homes to keep track of children's whereabouts and companions, in announcement that police have no definite clue of Marjorie's whereabouts.

August 28—Announced that "tip" of Marjorie possibly spending night several weeks before in Marie Louise Home in New York was of no avail.

September 1—Marjorie attends moving picture show in Philadelphia. Seen her photograph thrown on screen with mother's request to find her. Emerges from picture show. Admits identity to two detectives who recognized her from photograph on screen.

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